**READING #2 GLOSSARY**

**Auschwitz-Birkenau –** established in 1940 as a concentration camp, a killing center was added in 1942 at Birkenau. Also part of the huge camp complex was a slave labour camp known as Buna-Monowitz.

**Concentration Camp –** a prison camp in which individuals are held without regard for accepted rules of arrest and detention. The Nazis constructed concentration camps to hold Jews, “Gypsies”, communists, and others considered “enemies of the state.”

**Death Camp –** a camp where the Nazis murdered people in assembly-line style. The largest death camp was Auschwitz-Birkenau. The term was also used for concentration camps such as Bergen-Belsen and Dachau where thousands died of starvation, disease, and maltreatment.

**Kapo –** a prisoner forced to oversee other prisoners.

**Mengele, Josef (1911-1979) –** senior SS physician at Auschwitz-Birkenau from 1943-1944. He carried out “selections” of prisoners upon their arrival at the camp and conducted experiments on some of those prisoners.

**“Selection” –** the process the Nazis used to separate those prisoners who would be assigned to forced labour from those who were to be killed immediately.

**SS -** in German, Schutzstaffel; the elite guard of Nazi Germany. It provided staff for the police, camp guards, and military units within the German army.